(d) the steps being taken to clear those proposals in order to avoid undue delay?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has intimated that 1326 proposals under commissioned category are pending as on date. Out of these, more than 1200 proposals of commissioned programmes are pending with the Kashir Channel, since relevant document/files are being scrutinized by the CBI in connection with a case of alleged malpractices.

(d) The steps taken by Prasar Bharati to minimize delay in processing of proposals are as follows:

(i) As per the guidelines and instructions issued recently, no *suo-moto* proposals are to be received by Doordarshan.

(ii) *Suo-moto* proposals, received in the past, not required by the channels, have been/are being returned summarily.

(iii) As per guidelines issued recently, proposals are required to be disposed within a period of 8 weeks.

(iv) To minimize chances of any malpractices, antecedents of producers for Kashir Channel programmes are being verified through Ministry of Home Affairs and this process is being expedited.

Telecast from DD Relay Centre, Jashpur Nagar, M.P.

†2291. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for frequent interruption in telecast from Doordarshan Relay Centre, Jashpur Nagar, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is a proposal to depute a caretaker for regular telecast from the said centre;

(c) if so, by when this post will be created; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the details of measures taken for continuous relay from this centre?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Very Low Power Transmitter (VLPT), Jashpur Nagar is an unmanned transmitter located in dense forest. Due to cloudy weather and unsatisfactory power supply, the batteries do not get charged properly causing breakdown in service.

(b) VLPTs are unmanned installations and no staff is provided for them. Jaspur Nagar transmitter is looked after by Maintenance Centre, Bilaspur. It takes sometime for the staff to reach the Transmitter site, when required. An official is sent periodically to carry out preventive maintenance to minimize the breakdown in service.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Periodic maintenance of the transmitter is being done regularly. New TV Receive Only (TVRO) system has been installed at VLPT, Jashpur Nagar. The transmitter is now reported to be functioning normally and there has been no major breakdown since October, 2001.

Criteria for purchase of regional films

2292. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional films including Tamil which have been bought by the DD and Films Division for the past five years; and

(b) the criteria for the purchase of such regional films?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No regional films have been purchased by Doordarshan and Films Division during the past five years.

(b) Does not arise.